

TINTO BRASS



One of Italy's most distinctive current directors, Giovanni "Tinto" Brass has carved an indelible niche for himself since the 1960s as a filmmaker well-versed in bringing both challenging avant-garde and intoxicating erotica to the screen.

Born on March 26, 1933, Brass directed his first film at the age of 30, *Chi lavora è perduto*. His following films mixed experimental narrative techniques with wild pop art imagery, including such titles as *The Flying Saucer* (1964), *Nerosubianco* (1969), and two films with Vanessa Redgrave and Franco Nero, *Drop-Out* (1970) and *Vacation* (1971).

However, the current Tinto Brass "style" first emerged in his breakthrough international hit, the controversial 1976 film *Salon Kitty*, featuring Helmut Berger, Ingrid Thulin and future *Caligula* actors Teresa Ann Savoy and John Steiner. The strength of this film impressed Bob Guccione, who hired him for *Caligula*; however, Brass was removed during post-production and quickly embarked on a wild sex comedy with Luc Merenda, 1980's *Action*.

After a three-year hiatus, Brass became exclusively devoted to stylish and often comic erotic filmmaking (often focused on the bosoms and derrieres of voluptuous women), including such memorable films as *The Key* (1983) with Stefania Sandrelli, *Miranda* (1985) with Serena Grandi, *Love and Passion* (1987), *Snack Bar Budapest* (1988) with Giancarlo Giannini, *Paprika* (1991), *All Ladies Do It* (1992), *The Voyeur* (1994), *P.O. Box Tinto Brass* (1995), *Frivolous Lola* (1998), *Cheeky* (2000), *Senso '45* (2002), *Private* (2003) and *Monamour* (2005).